

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

C. Chappell et al.

Serial No. 09/903,334

Filing Date: 7/10/2001

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
PROCESSING BANDWIDTH ALLOCATION  
MESSAGES**



Examiner:

Art Group: 2161

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 0007 at page 2 with the following:

--Figures 3a and 3b show a schematic diagram illustrating an encapsulation of upstream bandwidth allocation messages encapsulated within a downstream management message according to an embodiment of the present invention.--

At page 7 continuing to page 8, please replace paragraph 0031 with the following:

--Figures 3a and 3b show a schematic diagram illustrating upstream bandwidth allocation elements encapsulated within a downstream management message according to an embodiment of the present invention. According to an embodiment of the CM 106 shown in Figure 2, the downstream physical communication circuit 124 may transmit a data stream 202 to the downstream MAC circuit 128 in